



How we started

On September 26, 1998 the oil tanker *M/T Command* departed San Francisco Bay bound for Panama with a damaged tank. Nearly 15 miles off the San Mateo County coast, the vessel began discharging approximately 3,000 gallons of oil. As a result 1,490 Common Murres and other diving seabirds died. Damages to natural resources were estimated at \$4,000,000.

The Network originated from one of several restoration projects funded by the *M/T Command* Oil Spill Restoration Fund. The geographic boundaries of the Central Coast Chapter extend from Point Reyes to Point Sur. Since the inception of the Network (November 2005), Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary has coordinated the project in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex along with other agencies and non-governmental organizations.

